



1776 MAIN STREET  
 P.O. BOX 2138  
 SANTA MONICA, CA  
 90407-2138

TEL 310.393.0411  
 FAX 310.393.4818

January 4, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

The Human Subjects Protection Committee has approved the research referenced below. As of 12/29/2009, all contingencies set on the original approval date have been met, and the study is now free to begin human subjects activities at any time.

Date of Approval: 12/8/2009  
 HSPC Project ID: 2009-0586  
 Project Title: Incorporating AHRQ QIs in Hospital Quality Improvement Practices  
 Project Number: HQ140  
 Principal Investigator: Donna Farley  
 Funding Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality  
 Prime Recipient: RAND  
 RAND Unit: Health  
 Human Subjects: Yes  
 Type of Review: Expedited  
 Qualification Category: 7  
 Assurance Number: FWA00003425  
 IRB ID Number: IRB00000051  
 Administrator: James Tebow, ext. 7173

The HSPC is RAND's Institutional Review Board to review research involving human subjects, as required by federal regulations. RAND's "Federalwide Assurance for the Protection of Human Subjects" (FWA00003425, effective through August 8, 2011) serves as our assurance of compliance with the regulations of 16 federal departments and agencies. According to this assurance, the Committee is responsible for review regardless of source of funding.

Sincerely,

James F. Tebow  
 Co-Administrator  
 RAND Human Subjects Protection Committee

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